

a central black hour-glass shaped fascia somewhat margined and streaked with ochraceous, the posterior margin also ochraceous; mesonotum with two longitudinal waved linear fasciæ, between which near anterior margin are two oblique spots, and the cruciform elevation ochraceous; abdominal segmental margins ochraceous; apices of the femora luteous, anterior and posterior tibiæ annulated at base, intermediate tibiæ both at base and apex with fuscous.

Tegmina pale greenish ochraceous-hyaline, the venation brownish ochraceous; a large pale fuscous spot at bases of second, third, fourth, fifth, and seventh apical areas, some small spots at bases of sixth and eighth apical areas, two very small spots on the margins of third ulnar area, and a series of large marginal spots at the apices of the longitudinal veins to apical areas. Wings pale hyaline, the venation brownish ochraceous.

Long. excl. tegm., ♂ 34 millim., exp. tegm. 75 millim.

Hab. Sumatra (Leyden Mus.).

VII.—Preliminary Notice of new Fossil Chelonia.

By R. LYDEKKER, B.A., F.G.S.

AULACOCHELYS, gen. nov.

I propose this name for *Trionyx circumsulcatus*, Owen, from the Upper Eocene (Lower Oligocene) of Hordwell, which differs from all species of *Trionyx* by the presence of a deep groove in the free border of the costals.

Trachyaspis ægyptiacus, sp. nov.

This species is based on a nearly entire carapace in the Natural-History Museum (no. R. 229) which was obtained during the excavation of the Suez Canal from beds of unknown, but probably Tertiary, age. It is distinguished from the typical *T. Lardyi*, Meyer, of the Swiss Miocene, by the much narrower neural shields.

Trachyaspis has been hitherto known only by detached fragments of the carapace, and has been regarded as allied to *Trionyx* or *Tretosternum*. That it has nothing to do with the former is evident from the presence of epidermal shields; and I am inclined to think from the evidence of the nuchal region of the present specimen that it is equally removed from the latter, of which the affinities are with the Chelydridæ. The nature of the sculpture of the carapace is an

exaggeration of that found in the existing American genus *Dermatemys*; and since the general contour of the neural shields is the same as in the latter, it appears probable, although the evidence is not conclusive, that *Trachyaspis* is an allied form.

Trachyaspis hantoniensis, sp. nov.

A marginal in the Natural-History Museum (no. R. 1443) indicates the occurrence in the Upper Eocene of Hordwell of a species of *Trachyaspis*, which, from its much lower geological horizon, is probably specifically distinct from the type form; while its distance in space may be an argument for its distinctness from the Egyptian species.

Anostira anglica, sp. nov.

An anterior marginal and a xiphiplastral from Hordwell preserved in the Museum (nos. 33198, *x*, *y*) appear to indicate a Chelonian which cannot be generically distinguished from the genus *Anostira*, Leidy, of which the type species is from the Upper Eocene of the United States. The larger size of the present specimens and the absence of distinct radiation in the sculpture afford a specific diagnosis from the type.

VIII.—*The Systematic Position of Meiolania, Owen.*
By Dr. G. BAUR, New Haven, Conn.

THERE are at present three different views about the systematic position of *Meiolania*. According to Sir Richard Owen* *Meiolania*, together with *Megalania*, belongs to a suborder Ceratosauria, with affinities with both the "orders Chelonia and Sauria."

Prof. Huxley † considers the animal most nearly allied to the Chelydridæ and Platysternidæ.

Mr. Boulenger ‡ comes to the conclusion that, far from

* Owen, R., "On parts of the Skeleton of *Meiolania platyceps* (Owen)," *Phil. Trans.* 1888, pp. 181-191, pls. xxxi.-xxxvii.

† Huxley, Thomas H., "Preliminary Note on the Fossil Remains of a Chelonian Reptile, *Ceratochelys sthenurus*, from Lord Howe's Island, Australia," *Proc. Roy. Soc. London*, vol. xlii. 1887, pp. 232-238.

‡ Boulenger, G. A., "On the Systematic Position of the Genus *Mioulania*, Owen," *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1887, pp. 551-555.